LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A method of inhibiting tumor growth associated with the expression of the MUC18 tumor antigen in an animal, comprising:

selecting an animal in need of treatment for a tumor, wherein the tumor comprises cells expressing MUC18;

providing a monoclonal antibody comprising a heavy chain amino acid sequence, wherein said heavy chain amino acid sequence is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 29, 33 and 37, and wherein said monoclonal antibody binds MUC18; and

contacting said tumor with an effective amount of said antibody, wherein said contacting results in inhibited growth of said tumor.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said antibody is a fully human antibody.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said antibody further comprises a light chain amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 6, 10, 14, 18, 22, 26, 30, 34 and 38.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said antibody is conjugated to a therapeutic or cytotoxic agent.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the cytotoxic agent is ricin.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the therapeutic agent is a radioisotope.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said tumor is melanoma.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said tumor is a lung tumor.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said tumor growth is tumor metastasis.

10. (Previously presented) A method of inhibiting cell invasion associated with melanoma, comprising:

selecting an animal in need of treatment for melanoma;

providing a monoclonal antibody comprising a heavy chain amino acid sequence, wherein said heavy chain amino acid sequence is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 29, 33 and 37, and wherein said monoclonal antibody binds MUC18; and

contacting said melanoma with an effective amount of said antibody, wherein said contacting results in inhibited cell invasion.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said antibody is a fully human antibody.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said antibody is conjugated to a therapeutic or cytotoxic agent.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the cytotoxic agent is ricin.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the therapeutic agent is a radioisotope.

15. (Previously presented) A method of increasing survival of an animal having a metastatic tumor that expresses MUC18, comprising:

selecting an animal in need of treatment for a metastatic tumor, wherein the tumor comprises cells expressing MUC18;

providing a monoclonal antibody comprising a heavy chain amino acid sequence, wherein said heavy chain amino acid sequence is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 29, 33 and 37, and wherein said monoclonal antibody binds MUC18; and

contacting said animal with an effective amount of said antibody, wherein said contacting results in inhibited metastasis of said tumor resulting in increased survival of said animal.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein said antibody is a fully human antibody.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein said antibody is conjugated to a therapeutic or cytotoxic agent.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the cytotoxic agent is ricin.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the therapeutic agent is a radioisotope.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the heavy chain amino acid sequence is SEQ ID NO: 1.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein heavy chain amino acid sequence is SEQ ID NO: 1 and the light chain amino acid sequence is SEQ ID NO: 2.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the heavy chain amino acid sequence is SEQ ID NO: 1.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said antibody further comprises a light chain amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 6, 10, 14, 18, 22, 26, 30, 34 and 38.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein heavy chain amino acid sequence is SEQ ID NO: 1 and the light chain amino acid sequence is SEQ ID NO: 2.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the heavy chain amino acid sequence is SEQ ID NO: 1.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein said antibody further comprises a light chain amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 6, 10, 14, 18, 22, 26, 30, 34 and 38.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein heavy chain amino acid sequence is SEQ ID NO: 1 and the light chain amino acid sequence is SEQ ID NO: 2.